## **New Waiver and Claims Information for Providers**

Providers intending to submit claims under the Katrina waiver are encouraged to submit these claims as soon as possible.

- The federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 appropriated \$2 billion for states that provided health services through Medicaid waivers for Hurricane Katrina evacuees.
- The Katrina waiver stipulates that providers may submit claims retroactively up to one year after the date of service for services provided through the coverage period ending June 30, 2006.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is conducting an analysis to estimate waiver expenditures to date by states to determine if the funds appropriated are likely to be expended in the current federal fiscal year ending September 30, 2006.
- CMS would like to close out these federal expenditures in the current federal fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. Thus, as stated above, HHSC encourages providers to submit claims as soon as possible.